

**FINAL**

**PHASE II ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH OF PROPOSED BATTLE AREA  
COMPLEX (BAX) & ANTI-ARMOR LIVE FIRE AND TRAINING RANGE (AALFTR)  
TRAINING AREAS FOR STRYKER BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM (SBCT) U.S. ARMY  
POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA, ISLAND OF HAWAI'I, HAWAI'I (TMK 3-4-4-16:1)**

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## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District (ACOE) requested GANDA conduct Phase II archaeological research for proposed Stryker Brigade Combat Team Projects at U.S. Army Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA), Island of Hawai'i, as specified in the scope-of-work (SOW) dated 13 September 2002. The project area included three separate survey areas in eastern PTA: Battle Area Complex (BAX); Anti-Armor Live Fire and Training Range (AALFTR), and AALFTR Extension. The main goal of the Phase II work was to evaluate all historic properties identified previously and during the current study for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

A total of 24 archaeological sites are documented in the project area, including nine sites in the BAX, eight sites in the AALFTR, and seven sites in the AALFTR Extension. All of the sites are classified as traditional Hawaiian in origin, associated with short-term occupation, volcanic glass and basalt quarrying, possible bird hunting, and travel through the region.

The occupation sites (Sites 18671, 18673 19490, 21299, 21308, 23464, 23456, and 23626) yielded intact surface or subsurface deposits indicating limited or repeated use, many of which were dated to the mid-late pre-Contact era beginning around the late 15<sup>th</sup> century. These occupations appear to be directly associated with exploitation of local resources, such as birds (*ua'u*) nesting in the Saddle and basalt and volcanic glass exposed in late pre-Contact flows from Mauna Loa. Two sites in the project area have earlier pre-Contact components (Sites 18673 and 21285) possibly beginning in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century.

Over 35 individual volcanic glass quarries, grouped into five sites (Sites 21667, 21669, 21670, 21671, and 23458) are located on the k4 lava flow in the project area. The k4 flow was created in the late pre-Contact era around 330 years BP (Sinton 2004).

Four sites (Sites 23455, 23463, 23621 and 23622) in the project area comprise over 340 anthropogenic pits possibly created by pre-Contact Hawaiians for the capture of *ua'u* (Hawaiian Petrel) for food. The multitude of possible bird pits coupled with the dense *ua'u* bone identified at occupation sites indicates a large amount of bird meat was being exploited in the Saddle Region, possibly to support intensive quarry activities during the late pre-Contact era at the Mauna Kea Adze Complex (cf. Williams 2002:15, among others) and nearby volcanic glass quarries currently recorded inside PTA.

Three trails (Sites Feature 19490, Features F and K, 23457, and 23466) and two possible trail markers (Sites 23462 and 23470) are inside the project area. The traditional travel routes likely provided passage across the Saddle and between local resources and occupation sites.

All 24 sites in the project area are recommended as eligible for the NRHP because they meet Significance Criterion D. In accordance with the Programmatic Agreement (PA) followed by the SBCT project, efforts shall be made to avoid all 24 sites during any construction or ground-disturbing activities.

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers archaeologist Kanalei Shun and Christi Shaw were essential in the planning and logistics of the project. PTA Cultural Resources personnel, Bill Godby, James Head and Kelly Luscomb provided valuable site data included in this report. Bill Godby was also helpful with logistical support during the field work and ensuring access to the active range. Eric Brundage, Robin Hall and John Wells provided UXO support during the field work. The field crew is grateful to Mr. Noble Kila from PTA Range Control, who promoted a safe work environment for everyone working on the range.

The authors are especially grateful to the late Dr. Alan Ziegler for his thorough and informative analysis of the vertebrate faunal remains recovered during the project. Artifacts and midden collections were weighed and cataloged by Carly Antone, Alton Exzabe and Ana González. Site illustrations presented in this report were drafted by Amy Buffum and Esme Hammerle.

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